MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS
MARVEL COMICS
153
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WOLVERINE WAR MACHINE
MOON KNIGHT VENGEANCE
GRINBERG '93

MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS

RICHARD ASHFORD EDITOR
MICHAEL KRAIGER ASSISTANT EDITOR
RALPH MACCHIO GROUP EDITOR
TOM DEFALCO EDITOR IN CHIEF

COVER BY TOM GRINDBERG

WOLVERINE

PURE SACRIFICE
PART 2 OF 4
"LOGAN'S RUN"

WRITER.....NEL YOMTOV
PENCILS.....PHIL HUGH FELIX
INKS.....REY GARCIA
LETTERS....UL HIGGINS
COLORS ....GEORGE ROUSSOS

The madness in Madripoor continues with Logan's fear-crazed search for Abdul Alahazred, who has abducted Tyger Tiger.

WAR MACHINE

THE DYING GAME
PART 2 OF 4
"TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS"

WRITERS ...LEN KAMINSKI, SCOTT BENSON
PENCILS ...JOHN CZOP
INKS .....TIM DZON
LETTERS ...UL HIGGINS
COLORS ....CHRIS MATTHYS

War Machine finds himself in the middle of gang bangers at war, the self-styled War Machines and their mysterious adversaries, who appear to be 'pros' with some heavy firepower.

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MARVEL READERS PRESENT

Dear Marvel Readers Presents,

I picked up MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #149 to read the Daughters of the Dragon story and was pleased to see that all the stories were equally informative and enjoyable. All of the writers should take a bow because they have written easily understood stories that deal with very serious topics, such as wife battering [Daughters], pollution [Namor], vengeance [ditto] and greed [Starjammers]. The Daughters and Vengeance stories were even more effective in getting their messages across to the reader due to impressive art work. Reggie Jones' stark pencils and inks combined with his contrasting color scheme made the Daughters story the highlight of MCP #149. Fred Harper's art in the Vengeance story was just as good. His inking was very effective in bringing out the gritty reality of the story. All in all, MCP #149 is a comic book I would probably show to people who say that comic books do not deal with the real world. Keep up the good work.

Annie Gould
74 Carsbrooke road
Etobicoke, Ontario
Canada M9C 3C6

Thanks for your letter, Annie. We didn't realize we were putting together such an issue oriented issue until your letter brought it to our attention. We just thought we were putting together another great issue of MCP. Quite a few comics deal with the problems of the real world; unfortunately we don't really have super-humans like Namor to help us look after this world.

The stark art and coloring of Reggie Jones seem to have worked well to create the dramatic contrasts needed to deal with such a controversial subject.

Dear Richard, Michael, and Tom

I am very disappointed in you. In your "Till Death Us Do Part" you appear to be supporting responding to violence with violence. Battering is a terrible thing to do, but responding with a fight is not the answer. Responding this way makes you no better than the person who did the battering. And having only the male taken away in cuffs while the person who had just "wiped the floor with him" not taken away as well, sends a very bad message that if you take revenge upon someone who batters, you will not be in trouble with the law. Responding, as you eventually state, with pressing charges and following through with them may be the best recourse for these situations.

Battering is not "a man thing" nor a "universal male bonding ritual" as you portray it to be; many males are subjected to similar types of abuse from their spouses, but this is not as well known due to the male ego's resistance to reporting it. Males do not bond due to battering their wives as you suggest; rather this is kept 'behind closed doors' due to shame and power control. It, too, can be "bred into us from early childhood" as you state the helplessness is in women. This is not an excuse, though. There is no excuse for beating on someone, whether male or female.

Some of the statements you made were true. One is that there are some men who are threatened by a woman who controls her life or is more independent than they think she should be. But battering does not always come from this.

I can see the message you were trying to put across, but I feel that you came from the wrong angle.

[Continued]

MARVEL READERS PRESENT

I am in the mental health field and see the solutions and methods you put forth as causing as many, if not more problems than battering does. Violence begets violence and if the cycle is not stopped, it will eventually spin out of control. Going out to beat up someone who beats a spouse just keeps the cycle turning.

Being in the mental health profession, I have worked with both the battered and the ones who batter. Sometimes counseling works, sometime not; sometimes jail works, sometimes not. But violence never works. Call the police, or a hot-line [look in your phone book], or leave; but getting revenge will not help.

Jade D. Gibbon, M.S.
3432 Garrett
Perryton, TX
79070

Jade, thank you for your thoughtful letter. The issue of battering is a complex one, and an eight page story in a comic book may not be the best place to deal with it, but at least it is one dramatic forum for its discussion. By no means were we advocating the use of violence as a response to the terrible violence of battering. The dramatic action in the story was the result of the attempted apprehension of Ron, 'the wife-battering ex-heavyweight'. Collen had to pit her martial arts skills against a larger formidable opponent, and Ann had to find the strength [with the help of her friend] to stand up to someone she loved and who had hurt her so horribly. Which is what we thought made it a great story.

Dear Marvel Readers Presents,

Daughters of the Dragon? I was curious, it looked new and exciting, so I picked it up. Collen and Misty make a great team!

The art was cutting edge, kind of Daredevilesque. I liked how the red and black tones helped reinforce the angst Ann was feeling and complement the tough fighting skills of Misty. The outfits Misty and Collen have are pretty cool; they have a nice '90's non-spandex look. The only problem was we didn't get to see them fight in action as a team.

I'll be looking forward to more adventures of Daughters of the Dragon! I have a few quick questions:

1. Have I missed something? Is this their first appearance?

2. Wouldn't it be great if Marvel put out a Daughters of the Dragon limited or regular series? [hint! hint!]

Brendan Walsh
1501 W. Hood Ave.
Chicago, IL
60660

The Daughters of the Dragon story seems to have generated the most mail for MCP #149. We were really excited to team up Floyd Hughes and Reggie Jones for this return of Misty Knight and Collen Wing. That's right, the return. The Daughters first appeared as a team in the black and white magazine THE DEADLY HANDS OF KUNG FU #'s 32,33. They have been honing their fighting skills and appear ready for action.

As to a series limited or otherwise, it would be great. Would you readers be behind it?

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COVER BY FRED HARPER

VENGEANCE

DANGEROUS GAMES
PART 2 OF 4
"URBAN SAFARI"

WRITER .....CHRIS COOPER
BREAKDOWNS ...REGGIE JONES
FINISHES .....FRED HARPER
LETTERS .....UL HIGGINS
COLORS .....JOE ANDREANI

The Big Game Posse is on the hunt, their prey a human target. What they don't count on is that their latest trophy may have friends, friends who'll seek Vengeance!

MOON KNIGHT

HUNG JURY
PART 2 OF 3

WRITER ....CHUCK DIXON
ARTIST .....J.J. BIRCH
LETTERS ..JOHN COSTANZA
COLORS ...PAT GARRAHY

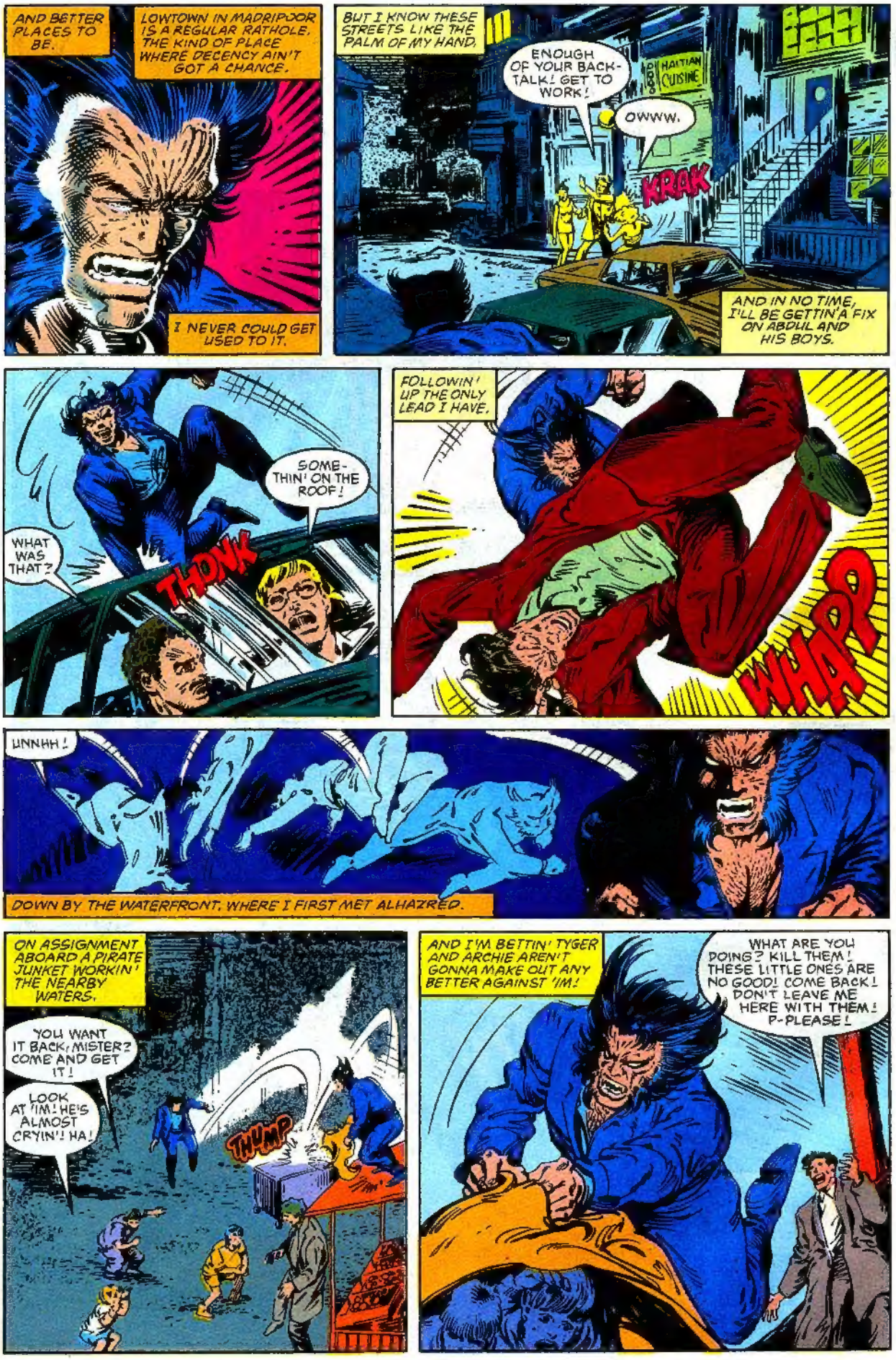
Moon Knight and Marlene do the detective work finding the key to the fix for the Pretorian's trial.

FROM RICHARD AND MICHAEL

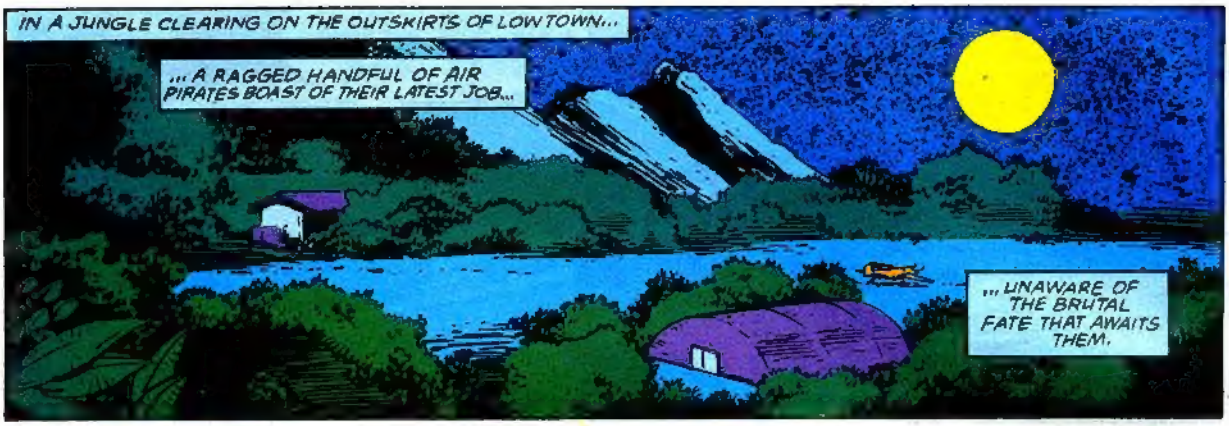
Experimentation; believe it or not nearly every issue of MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS is an experiment. Like most experiments we have a chance for success or failure and most often we think we're pretty successful, but we need you to tell us if our experiments are a success; now there are two ways for you to tell us. First, with the sales figures we can chart if an issue sold well, or sold better or worse than the last issue. Secondly, with your letters which, more importantly, can tell us so much more. You can tell us what you really liked, what you didn't like and what you'd like to see more or less of. Right now we're experimenting with this page, with the format, style and typefaces, and unfortunately the sales figures won't let us know if this experiment is a success or not, because face it, no one buys a book for the letters page. So it's up to you; let us know what you think: is it easier to read? does it look better? is the experiment a success?

Richard and Michael
in the lab

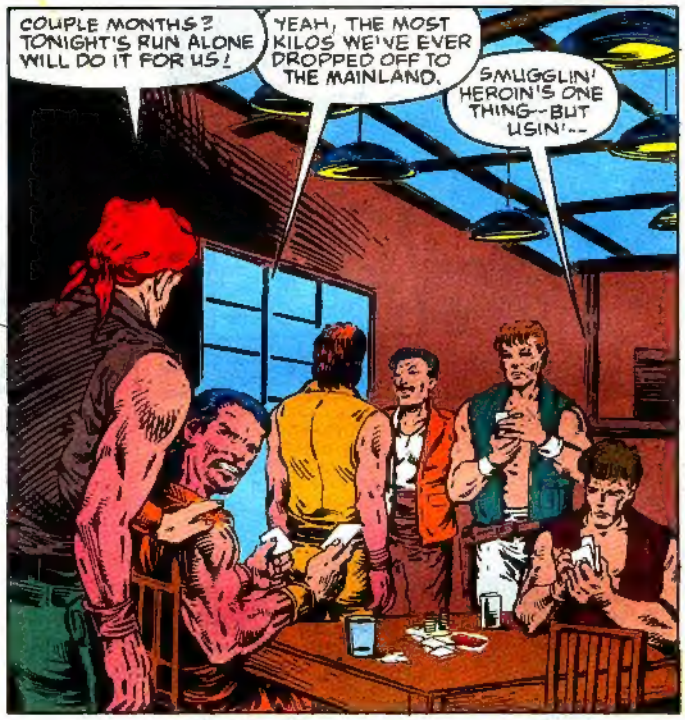
LOGAN'S RUN
WOLVERINE
COULDA THOUGHT OF AT LEAST A DOZEN BETTER WAYS TO SPEND THE NIGHT.
ONE BEIN' WITH MY LADY FRIEND, TYGER TIGER AND THAT'S EXACTLY THE WAY IT BEGAN...
...UNTIL THAT PSYCHO CASE, ALHAZRED, AND HIS GANG BUSTED UP OUR PRIVATE PARTY.
HE PULLED HIS MAGIC ROUTINE ON ME, KNOCKED ME OFF TYGER'S BALCONY AND TOOK OFF WITH HER AND OUR PAL, ARCHIE CORRIGAN.
HEY--!
OOOMF!
I GOT NO IDEA WHAT THESE LOONS ARE UP TO AND I'M ON A TRAIL THAT'S ALREADY COLD AS ICE.
LIKE I SAID--I COULDA THOUGHT OF BETTER THINGS TO DO TONIGHT.


AND BETTER PLACES TO BE.
LOWTOWN IN MADRIPOOR IS A REGULAR RATHOLE. THE KIND OF PLACE WHERE DECENCY AIN'T GOT A CHANCE.
I NEVER COULD GET USED TO IT.
BUT I KNOW THESE STREETS LIKE THE PALM OF MY HAND.
ENOUGH OF YOUR BACK-TALK! GET TO WORK!
OWWW.
KRAK
HAITIAN CUISINE
AND IN NO TIME, I'LL BE GETTIN' A FIX ON ABDUL AND HIS BOYS.
SOME-THIN' ON THE ROOF!
WHAT WAS THAT?
THONK
FOLLOWIN' UP THE ONLY LEAD I HAVE.
WHAP
UNNHH!
DOWN BY THE WATERFRONT, WHERE I FIRST MET ALHAZRED.
ON ASSIGNMENT ABOARD A PIRATE JUNKET WORKIN' THE NEARBY WATERS.
YOU WANT IT BACK, MISTER? COME AND GET IT!
LOOK AT 'IM! HE'S ALMOST CRYIN'! HA!
THUMP
AND I'M BETTIN' TYGER AND ARCHIE AREN'T GONNA MAKE OUT ANY BETTER AGAINST 'IM!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? KILL THEM! THESE LITTLE ONES ARE NO GOOD! COME BACK! DON'T LEAVE ME HERE WITH THEM! P-PLEASE!

NOT FAR...
DRIVE FASTER, RHYS! YOU ARE SLOW AS A TORTOISE!
I READ YOU LOUD AND CLEAR, CHIEF, BUT YOUR WISHES MEAN NOTHING TO THESE ILL-PAVED ROADS.
BESIDES, WE DO HAVE OUR "VALUABLE" CARGO TO CONSIDER, DO WE NOT?
LISTEN TO HOW THEY TALK, BROTHER STUMP! "VALUABLE" CARGO?! THESE TWO?! BAH!
BROTHER SCARFACE IS RIGHT! WE SHOULD HAVE KILLED THEM BEFORE!
I'M NOT HERE TO BE A BABYSITTER FOR YOU, OR ABDUL ALHAZRED.
CHOOSE YOUR WORDS CAREFULLY, MY BRUTISH FRIEND. ALHAZRED DOES NOT TOLERATE SUCH BETRAYAL.
YOU AND ABDUL ARE QUITE A PAIR, MATE.
ALHAZRED HAS ALLOWED US TO MAKE AMENDS FOR OUR PREVIOUS FAILURE TO CAPTURE THESE TWO. *
A REPEAT PERFORMANCE WILL MEAN OUR DEATHS. DO I MAKE MYSELF UNDERSTANDABLE, MR. DUMAS?
* SEE MCP #62-63.
Y-YES. OF C-COURSE, CHIEF.
FRANKLY, CHIEF, THIS IS JUST ANOTHER JOB FOR US. I DON'T CARE A BLASTED BIT ABOUT THIS HOLY CRUSADE YOU AND ALHAZRED SEEM TO BE ON.
WE JUST WANT OUR PAY AT THE END OF THIS AFFAIR, CLEAR?
AS AGREED, MR. RHYS, AND YOU WILL BE PAID--HANDSOMELY--
--WHEN TYGER TIGER AND ARCHIE CORRIGAN MEET THEIR DEATHS AT THE HANDS OF ALHAZRED!

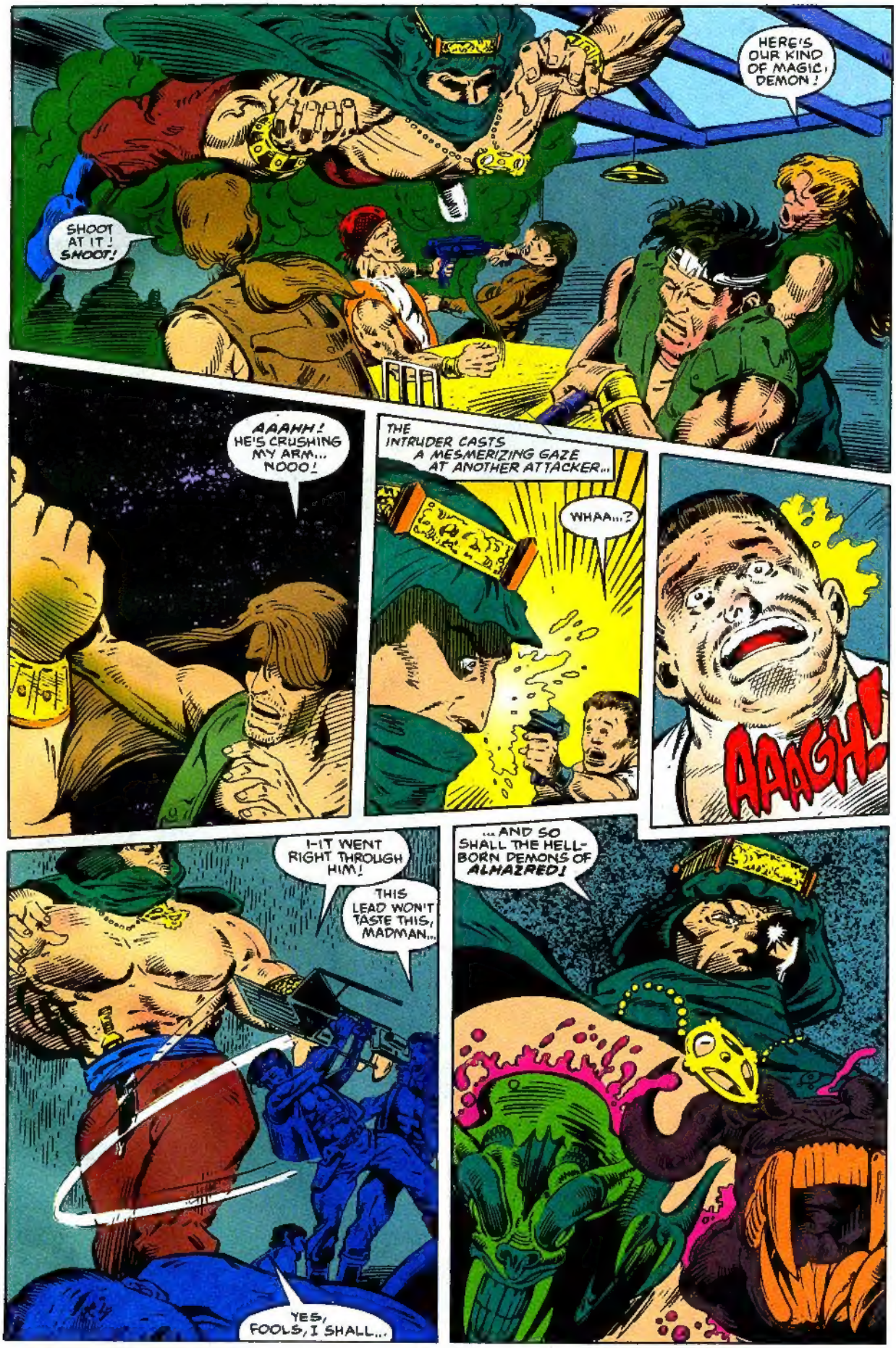

IN A JUNGLE CLEARING ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF LOWTOWN...
... A RAGGED HANDFUL OF AIR PIRATES BOAST OF THEIR LATEST JOB...
... UNAWARE OF THE BRUTAL FATE THAT AWAITS THEM.

THINGS DON'T GET MUCH EASIER THAN THIS.
'NOTHER COUPLE OF MONTHS LIKE THIS AN' WE RETIRE UP IN HIGHTOWN!

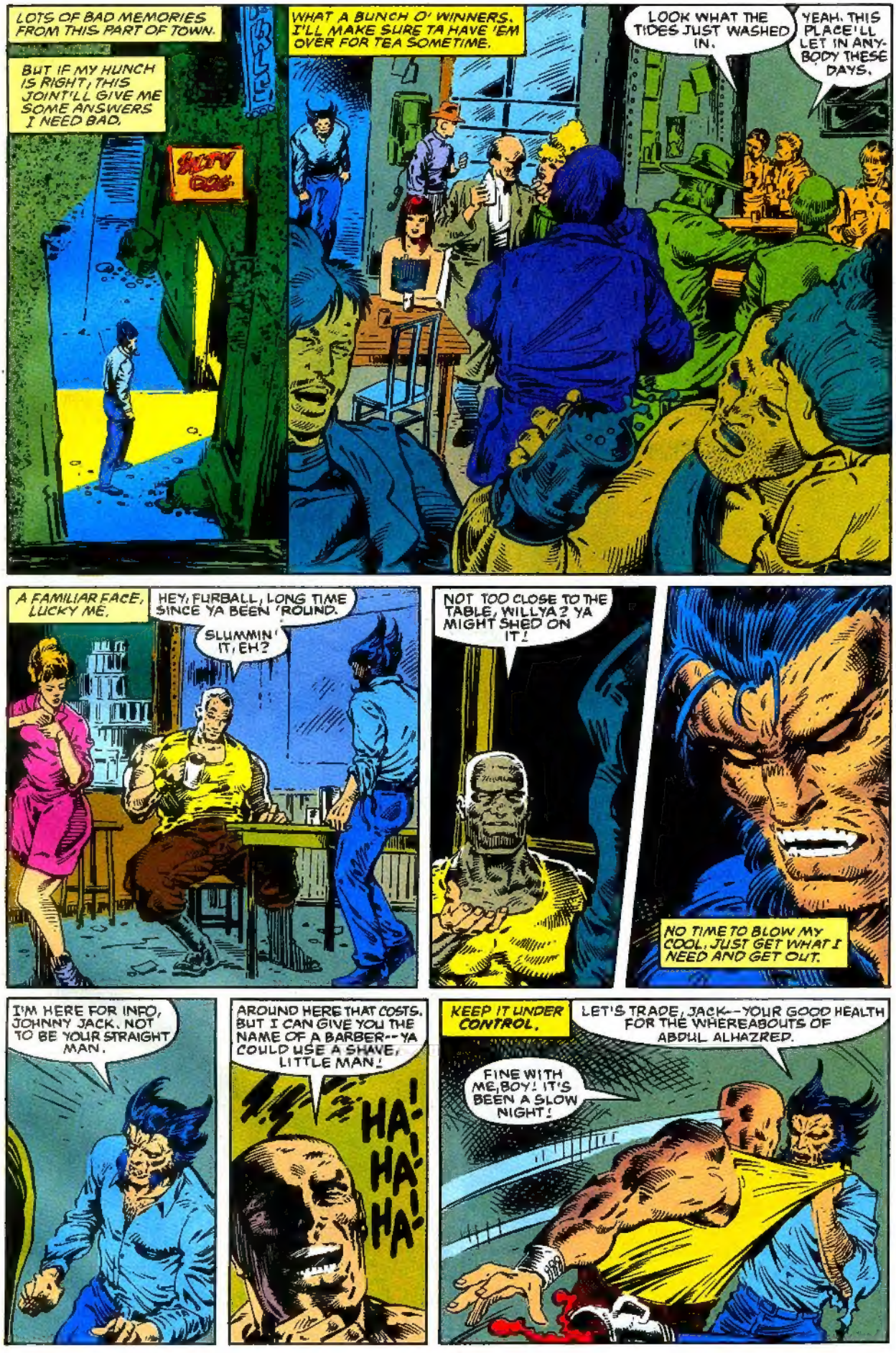

COUPLE MONTHS? TONIGHT'S RUN ALONE WILL DO IT FOR US!
YEAH, THE MOST KILOS WE'VE EVER DROPPED OFF TO THE MAINLAND.
SMUGGLIN' HEROIN'S ONE THING--BUT USIN'--

...IS ANOTHER, YEAH. BUT WHAT KIND OF MAGICAL TRUTHS DO THE SCUM THAT INDULGE IN OUR POWDERED DEATH HOPE TO FIND?

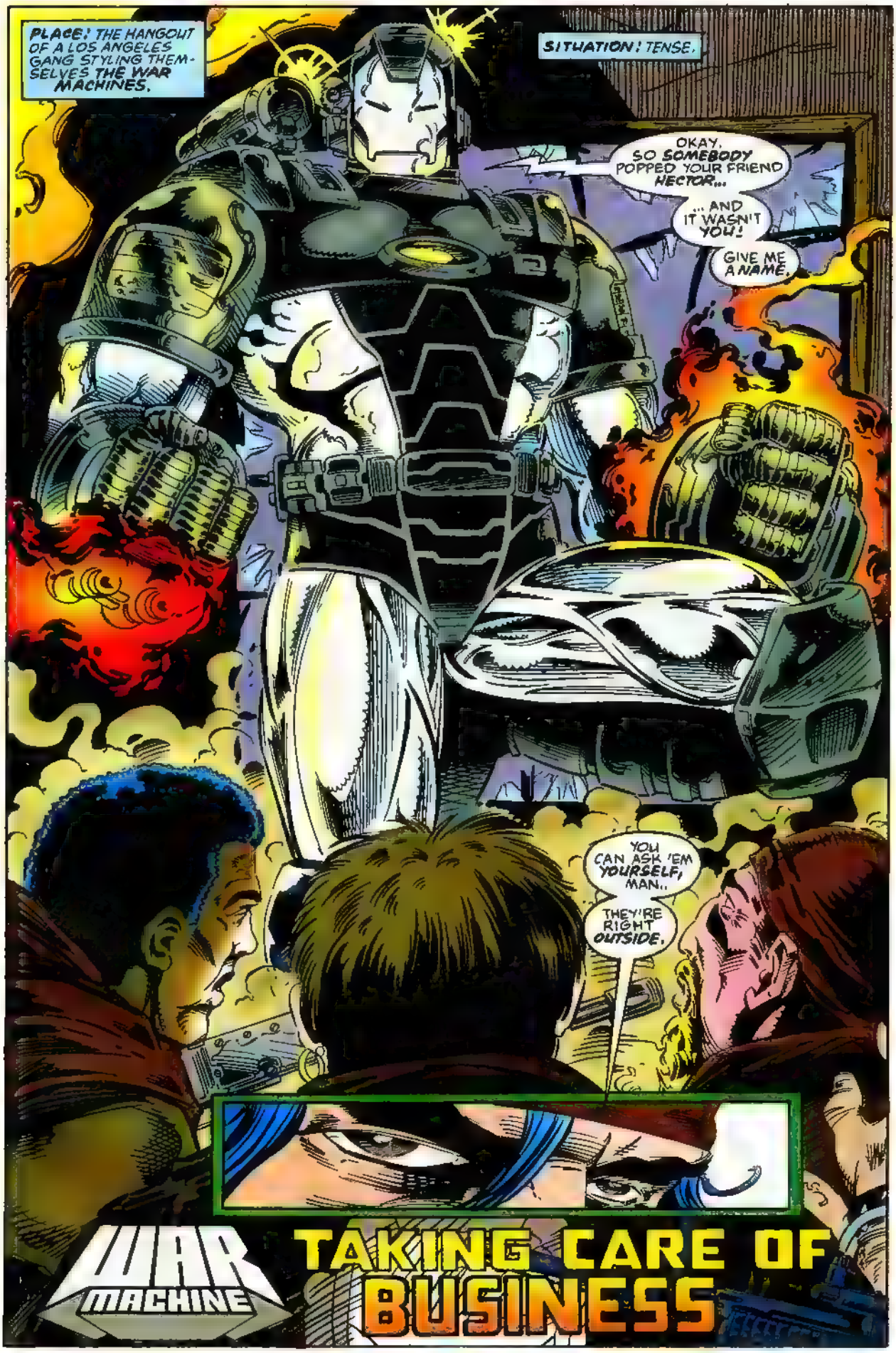
AND WHAT CAN VERMIN SUCH AS YOURSELVES KNOW OF MAGICS AND MAGICAL TRUTHS?
WHAA?
WHAT'S HAPPENING?
SOMETHING IN THE SMOKE--A FIGURE!

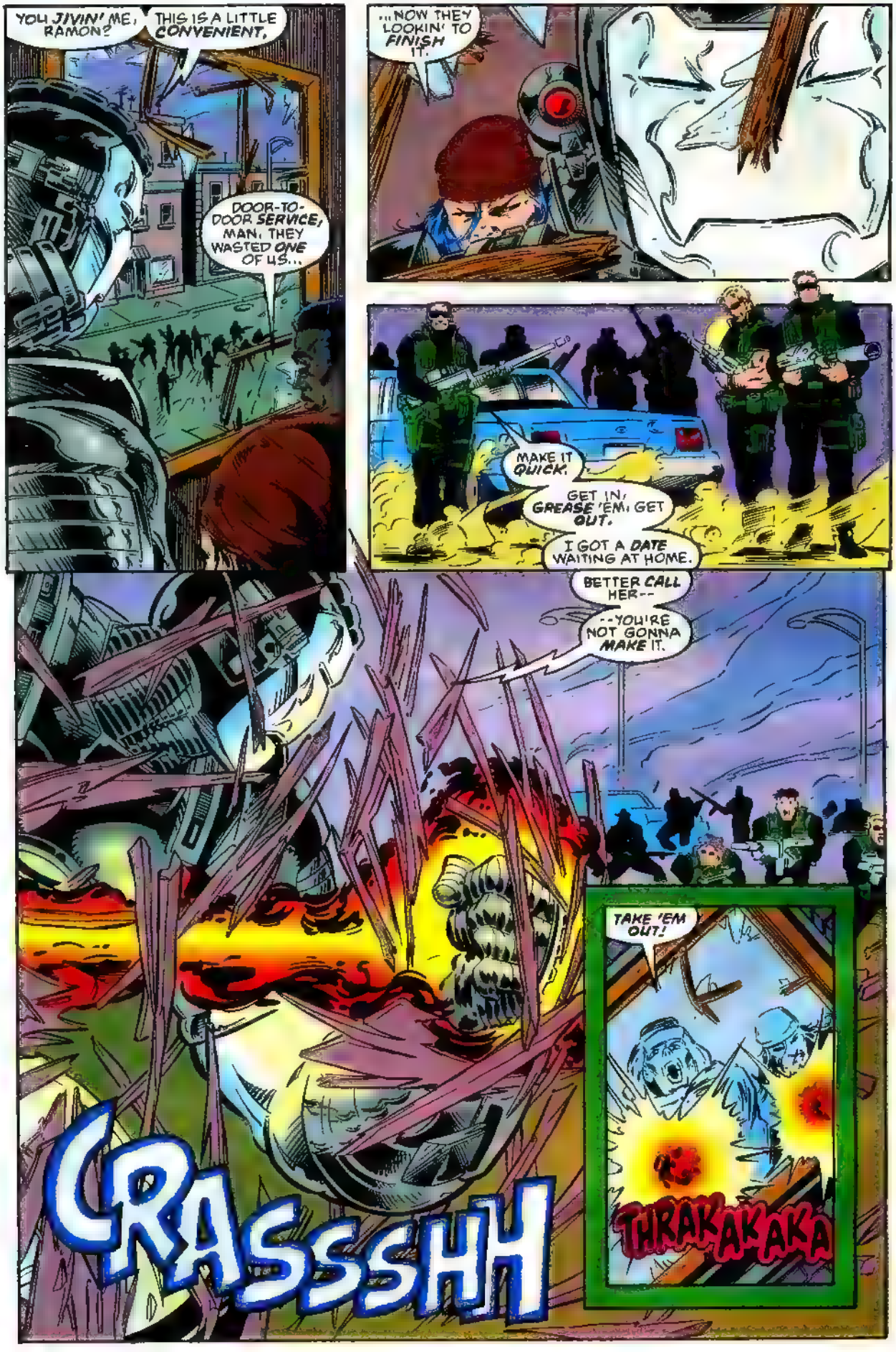

HERE'S OUR KIND OF MAGIC, DEMON!
SHOOT AT IT! SHOOT!
AAAHH! HE'S CRUSHING MY ARM... NOOO!
THE INTRUDER CASTS A MESMERIZING GAZE AT ANOTHER ATTACKER...
WHAA...?
AAAGH!
I-IT WENT RIGHT THROUGH HIM!
THIS LEAD WON'T TASTE THIS, MADMAN...
YES, FOOLS, I SHALL...
...AND SO SHALL THE HELL-BORN DEMONS OF ALHAZRED!

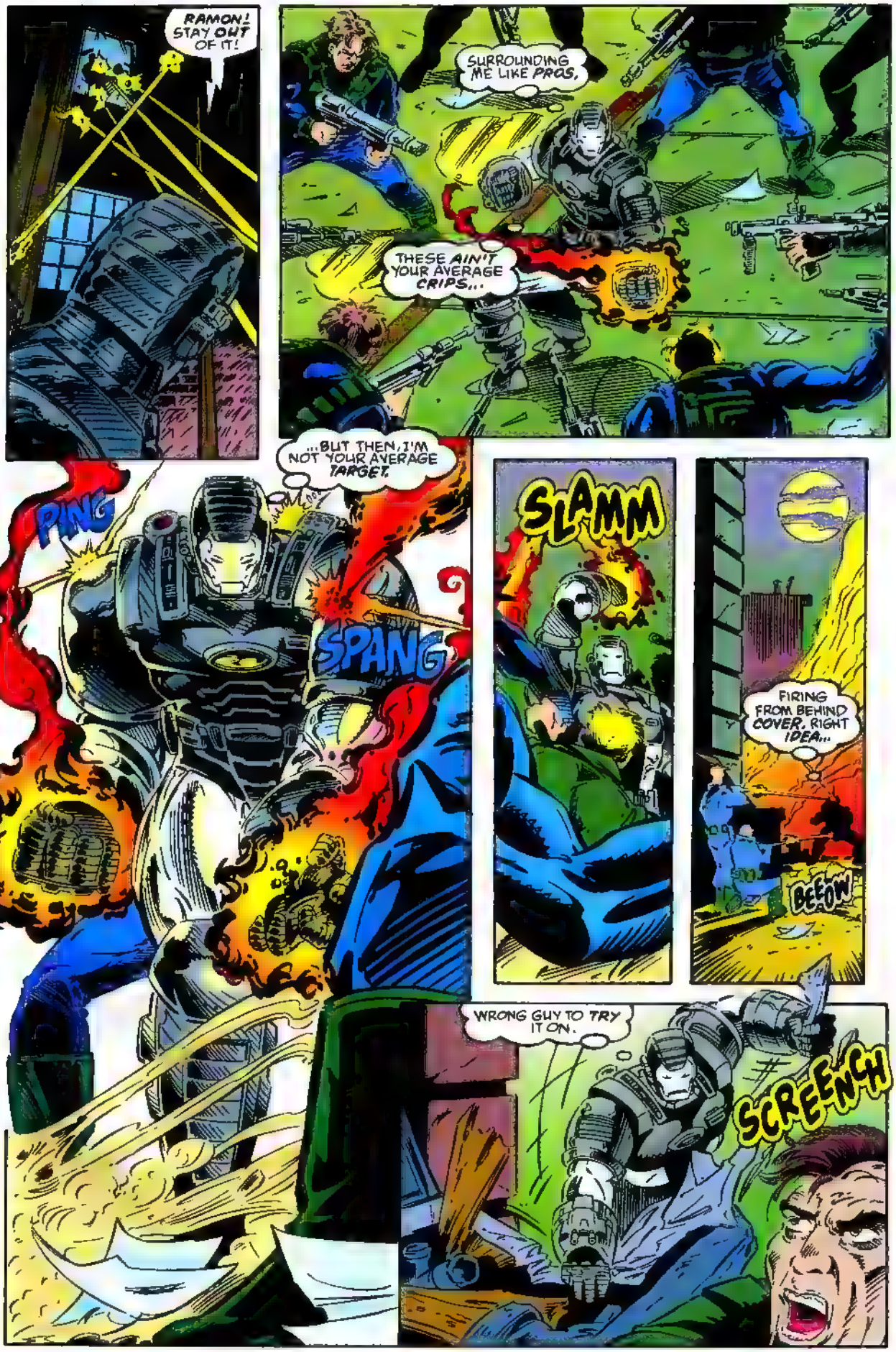
NOOO!
AHHH!
THE ELIMINATION OF THESE MAGGOTS MEANS NOTHING TO ME.
I DESIRE FAR MORE...
"MY PLAN WAS TO KIDNAP AND KILL TYGER TIGER--TO USURP CONTROL OF HER CRIME EMPIRE.
"WITH THAT, I COULD GAIN POWER OVER PRINCE BARAN'S CORRUPT GOVERNMENT.
"TO RULE THIS ISLAND AND BARTER WITH OTHER COUNTRIES FOR THE EXTRADITION OF CRIMINALS WHO HAVE FLED HERE. THE WORLD WOULD GROW TO FEAR ME.
"I INSTRUCTED THE CHIEF AND HIS MEN TO KIDNAP THE TIGER.
"BUT THEIR FEEBLE ATTEMPT WAS SPOILED BY THE ONE KNOWN AS 'LOGAN'...
"... WHOSE EXISTENCE WAS NOT UNKNOWN TO ME.
"HIS REAPPEARANCE INTRIGUES ME--AND SURELY HE DID NOT PERISH FROM HIS FALL OFF THE BALCONY...
AAGH!
EVEN NOW, I SENSE HIS PRESENCE--AND YET I WELCOME THIS SECOND CHANCE--
--TO DESTROY HIM!
SO VOWS ABDUL ALHAZRED...


LOTS OF BAD MEMORIES FROM THIS PART OF TOWN.
BUT IF MY HUNCH IS RIGHT, THIS JOINT'LL GIVE ME SOME ANSWERS I NEED BAD.
WHAT A BUNCH O' WINNERS. I'LL MAKE SURE TA HAVE 'EM OVER FOR TEA SOMETIME.
LOOK WHAT THE TIDES JUST WASHED IN.
YEAH. THIS PLACE'LL LET IN ANYBODY THESE DAYS.
A FAMILIAR FACE, LUCKY ME.
HEY, FURBALL, LONG TIME SINCE YA BEEN 'ROUND.
SLUMMIN' IT, EH?
NOT TOO CLOSE TO THE TABLE, WILLYA? YA MIGHT SHED ON IT!
NO TIME TO BLOW MY COOL. JUST GET WHAT I NEED AND GET OUT.
I'M HERE FOR INFO, JOHNNY JACK. NOT TO BE YOUR STRAIGHT MAN.
AROUND HERE THAT COSTS. BUT I CAN GIVE YOU THE NAME OF A BARBER--YA COULD USE A SHAVE, LITTLE MAN!
HA-HA-HA!
KEEP IT UNDER CONTROL.
LET'S TRADE, JACK--YOUR GOOD HEALTH FOR THE WHEREABOUTS OF ABDUL ALHAZRED.
FINE WITH ME, BOY! IT'S BEEN A SLOW NIGHT!

AND I NEED THE ACTION!
AAWWF!
IT DOESN'T PAY TA MAKE SOME GUYS ANGRY
I'M GONNA END UP BEIN' FISH-BAIT IF I DON'T STOP 'IM.
KERASH
UNNH!
YOU'RE A DEAD MAN, LOGAN.
I MAY BE -- MY ADAMANTIUM SKELETON'S HISTORY.
CAN'T HEAL REAL GOOD, EITHER. LOSING MY COOL ON THIS STIFF -- OPENING MY CLAWS -- MIGHT BE MORE THAN I COULD TAKE...
YOU SHOULDA TAKEN ME UP ON MY OFFER, FURBALL. NOW I'M THE ONE WHO'S GONNA GIVE YOU THAT SHAVE...
THAT DOES IT.
BELIEVE ME, BUB, THIS IS GONNA HURT ME A LOT MORE THAN IT HURTS YOU..!
WHAA--?!
NEXT
BUNGLE IN THE JUNGLE!

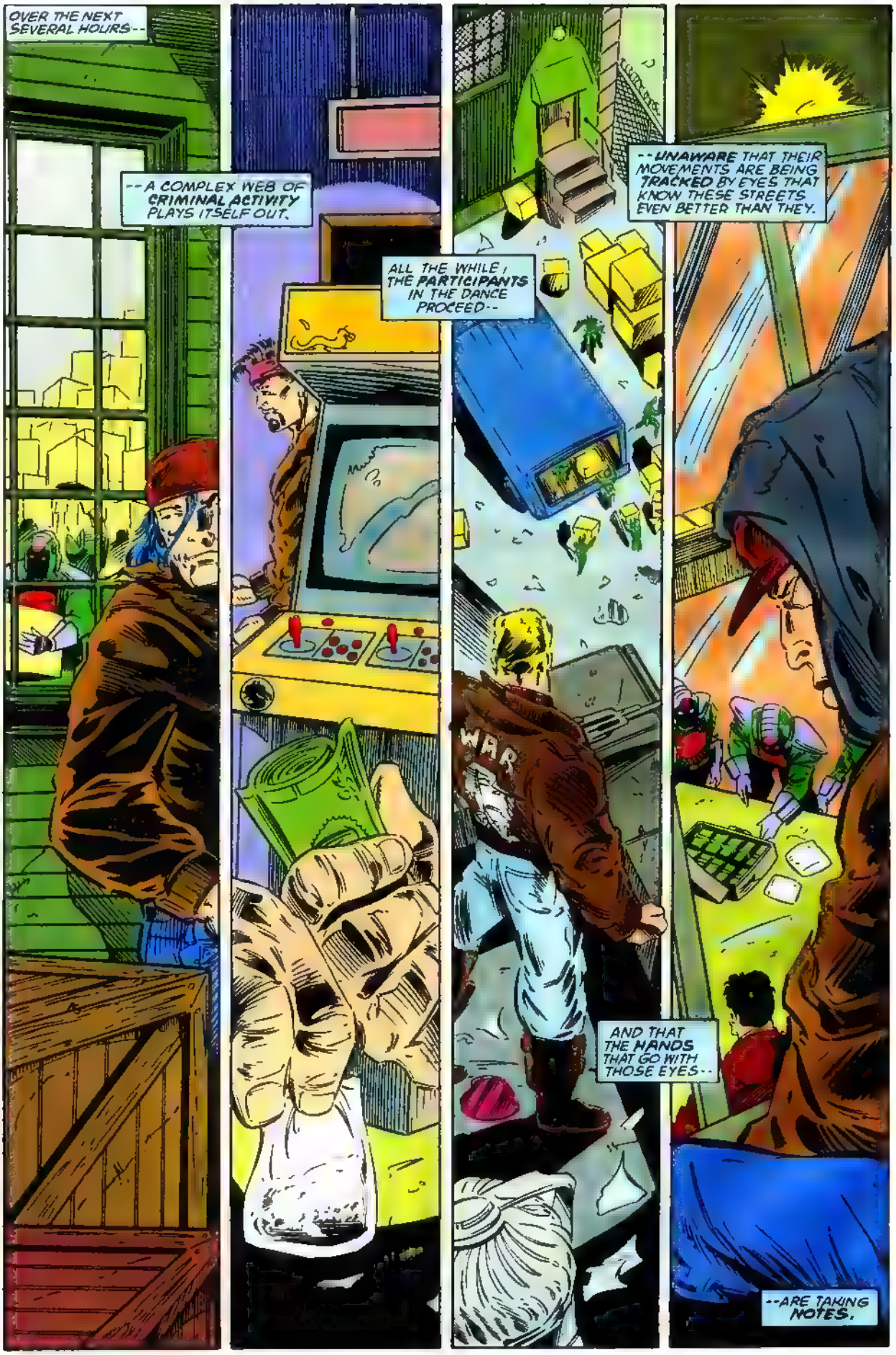

PLACE! THE HANGOUT OF A LOS ANGELES GANG STYLING THEMSELVES THE WAR MACHINES.
SITUATION! TENSE.
OKAY, SO SOMEBODY POPPED YOUR FRIEND HECTOR...
... AND IT WASN'T YOU!
GIVE ME A NAME.
YOU CAN ASK 'EM YOURSELF, MAN..
THEY'RE RIGHT OUTSIDE.
WAR MACHINE
TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS


YOU JIVIN' ME, RAMON?
THIS IS A LITTLE CONVENIENT,
DOOR-TO-DOOR SERVICE, MAN. THEY WASTED ONE OF US...
...NOW THEY LOOKIN' TO FINISH IT.
MAKE IT QUICK.
GET IN, GREASE 'EM, GET OUT.
I GOT A DATE WAITING AT HOME.
BETTER CALL HER--
--YOU'RE NOT GONNA MAKE IT.
CRASSSHH
TAKE 'EM OUT!
THRAKAKAKA


RAMON! STAY OUT OF IT!
SURROUNDING ME LIKE PROS,
THESE AIN'T YOUR AVERAGE CRIPS...
...BUT THEN, I'M NOT YOUR AVERAGE TARGET.
PING
SPANG
SLAMM
FIRING FROM BEHIND COVER. RIGHT IDEA...
BE-OW
WRONG GUY TO TRY IT ON.
SCREE-N-CH

GIVE IT BACK FER HECTOR!
BLAMM
SZZRRAK
WELL, LONG AS I CAN'T KEEP 'EM OUT...
... AT LEAST THEY'RE GOOD AT THIS.
WHACK
TCHOW
ALL RIGHT, TIME OUT...
GET ME ONE I CAN TALK TO.
I SAID...
ENOUGH!
MAN, WHATCHU DO THAT FOR?
MY PLAN, RAMON. MY RULES.
SPILL IT.
THE HATE-MONGER PAYING FOR THIS?

NGHK!
SKNCH
AAG!
HAKAGAK!
WAIT! HE'S GOT--
--POISON PILL, #@%!
TATTOO ON H.S NECK...
HYDRA?
WHAT'RE THEY MESSED UP IN THIS FOR?
HEY, YOU MEAN THE DUDES IN THE GREEN BATHROBES?
I SEEN 'EM ON THE NEWS; MAN, THEY BAD.
YEAH, THEY BAD.
THIS IS GETTING A LOT MORE COMPLICATED THAN I THOUGHT.
RAMON, HOW MANY DID YOU LOSE?
CHEWY, RAFAEL, MANNY, THEY DEAD. TALLBOY GOT A BROKEN LEG.
BUT WE GOT ALL O' THE HYDROX GUYS
I WISH.
WE GOT MORE WORK TO DO, LOTS MORE.
WORK ONLY YOU GUYS CAN DO.


OVER THE NEXT SEVERAL HOURS--
--A COMPLEX WEB OF CRIMINAL ACTIVITY PLAYS ITSELF OUT.
ALL THE WHILE, THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE DANCE PROCEED--
--UNAWARE THAT THEIR MOVEMENTS ARE BEING TRACKED BY EYES THAT KNOW THESE STREETS EVEN BETTER THAN THEY.
AND THAT THE HANDS THAT GO WITH THOSE EYES--
--ARE TAKING NOTES.

ALL RIGHT. LET'S TRY TO MAKE SOME SENSE OUTTA THIS.
THE SERPENTS'RE SELLING GUNS ON THE STREET.
TAKING THAT CASH AND USING IT TO BUY DRUGS.
SELLING THE DRUGS AND USING THAT CASH TO BUY MORE GUNS.
AN' SO ON
GUNS
SONS
DRUGS & WEAPONS ON STREET
$
HYDRA??
THERE'S A PLAYER MISSING.
WHERE'S HYDRA FIT IN?
THEY THE DRUG CONNECTION?
PROBABLY.
THAT ORDNANCE, THOUGH--THAT'S NOT 'ZACTLY OFF-THE-RACK
LET'S SEE IF THERE'S ANY NEWS FROM THE STREET...

YO, TALK TO ME.
RAMON, WAR MACHINE
WHAT WE GOT?
NOTHIN', MAN. PHIL, HE HEARD A BUNCHA THOSE SNAKE GUYS TALKIN' TRASH. HE CAN'T MAKE NO SENSE OUT OF IT.
WELL, WHAT DID HE HEAR?
I TOL' YOU, AIN'T BUT JIVE, MAN.
SOME MESS THEY TALKIN' 'BOUT 'HOT MOUTH.'
HOT MOUTH? AS IN 'BOCA CALIENTE'?
HEY, I DIN'T KNOW YOU HABLA ESPANOL, BRO.
*ADVANCED IDEA MECHANICS.--Richard
I HABLA LOTS O' STUFF, MAN.
LIKE THAT BOCA CALIENTE IS AIM* ISLAND.
THIS IS GETTING TO BE A REGULAR PARTY... AND I THINK I'M STARTING TO GET AN IDEA HOW TO CRASH IT...
NEXT: TAKE A CARD, ANY CARD

MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS
MARVEL
MIDNIGHT SONS
WOLVERINE WAR MACHINE
MOON KNIGHT VENGEANCE
EARLY MAY
F. HARPER
DEEM

IF THE BIG GAME POSSE GETS THEIR WAY, THE WOMAN IN VENGEANCE'S ARMS WILL BECOME THEIR LATEST TROPHY...
...PROOF OF ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL HUNT STALKING THE BIGGEST GAME OF ALL--PEOPLE.
REBECCA WAS A GOOD COP--MAYBE THE BEST.
VENGEANCE
URBAN SAFARI
BUT THE PROBLEM WITH HUNTING PEOPLE IS THAT SOMETIMES THEY HAVE FRIENDS..
AND YOU KILLED HER JUST FOR SPORT?!?

--FRIENDS WHO'LL WANT VENGEANCE!

KROM

LOOK OUT!

MY GOD-- EVEN CHEETAHS CAN'T MOVE THAT FAST! WHAT IS THIS THING?

UNNGH!

WHATEVER HE IS, HE WON'T SURVIVE A BAZOOKA BLAST!

EVERYBODY, GET CLEAR!

TARGET PRACTICE?

LET ME SHOW YOU HOW IT'S DONE!

THWK THWK

YEARGGH!

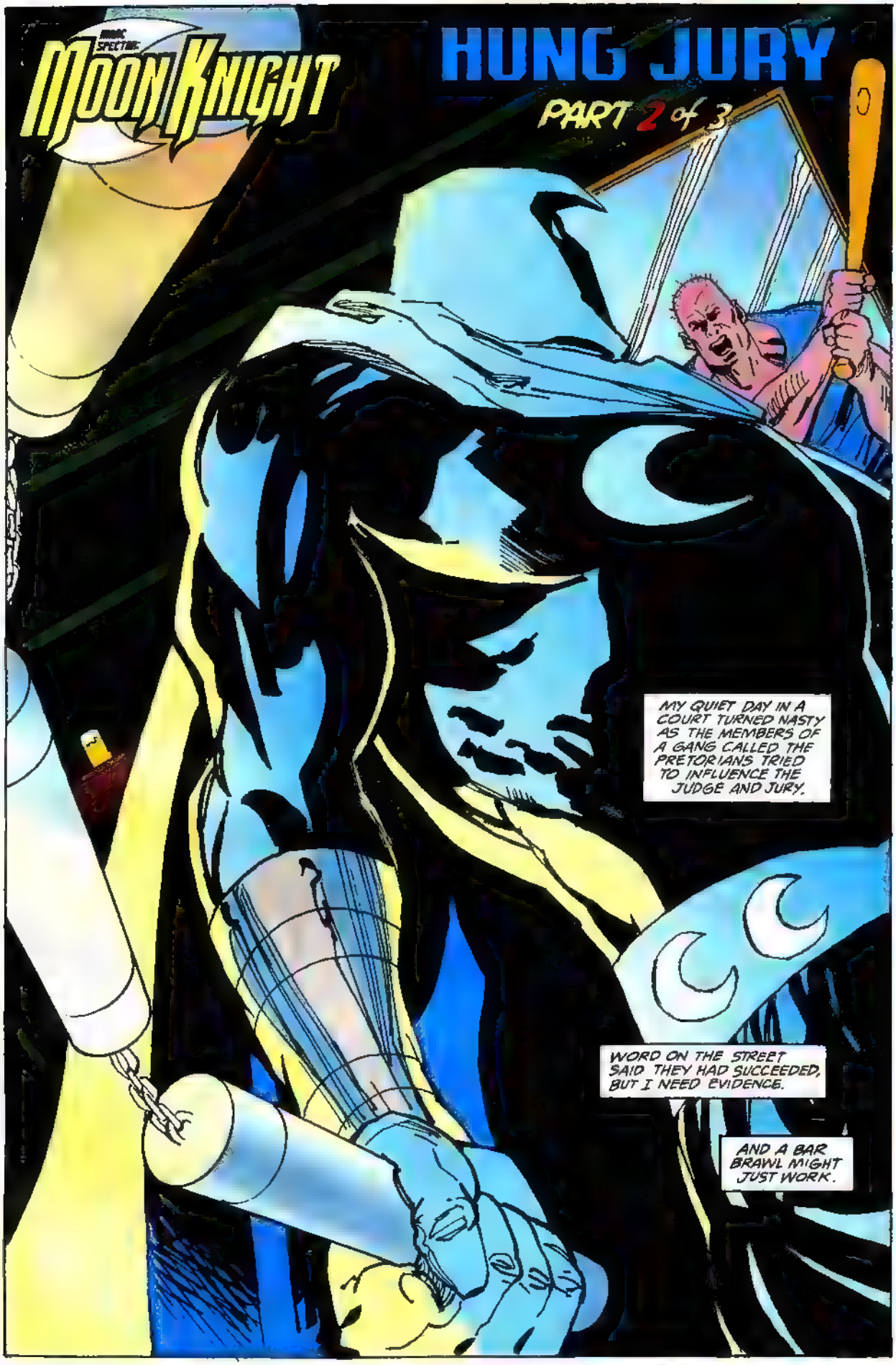
HE'S DESTROYING US!
YES--MAGNIFICENT, ISN'T HE? THE BIGGEST GAME YET. THAT SKULL WOULD BE QUITE A PRIZE--
THE PROXIMITY ALERT? THIS HAS TAKEN TOO LONG--WE'VE ATTRACTED ATTENTION!
VORP VORP VORP
HMMM. SOMETHING APPROACHING FROM THE AIR.
LET'S MAKE SURE OUR FLYING VISITOR SEES WHAT WE WANT HIM TO SEE.
TREBORN HOLBROOK, EVERYONE--SHADOW-CLOAK YOUR SELVES!
EH?
COWARDS! SHOW YOURSELVES, OR--
ZRAAK
TRY LOOKING UP, UGLY--

-- AND YOU'LL FIND ANNEX IS MORE THAN READY TO TAKE ON A KILLER LIKE YOU.
SOUNDS TOUGH, I GUESS... BUT I'M STILL NOT SURE THIS "SUPER HERO" THING IS FOR ME!
BUT I WAS TESTING OUT THE SUIT'S WEAPONS-CREATION SYSTEMS HEARD THE EXPLOSION...
... AND FROM THE LOOKS OF HIM, THE MONSTER IS MORE THAN ANY COPS COULD HANDLE! SO...
GET YOUR KICKS FROM BLOWING AWAY YOUNG WOMEN? LET'S SEE HOW YOU HANDLE YOUR OWN MEDICINE!
SCHEMA MODE-- INITIATE!
BRAT TAT TAT
PING PING
YOU THINK I KILLED REBECCA?
BACK OFF, KID! YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE GETTING INTO--
-- BUT I GUESS YOU'LL HAVE TO LEARN THE HARD WAY.
Unnnhhh..
HOLEE--!
REBECCA?! SHE'S ALIVE!

WE'VE GOT TO GET HER TO A HOSPITAL!
I CAN FLY--I'LL TAKE HER...
...AND THEN I'LL BE BACK TO FIND OUT WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT, PAL!
VROOSH
...NOW THAT MY RIDE HAS PULLED ITSELF BACK TOGETHER!
I DON'T THINK I'LL WAIT AROUND...
DID YOU SEE HOW THAT ANNEX GUY...
VROOOM
...COULD GENERATE ANY WEAPON HE WANTED AT WILL? HE WOULD MAKE THE PERFECT ADDITION TO OUR ARSENAL...
...ESPECIALLY WHEN THE TARGET OF OUR NEXT HUNT...

"...BUT FIRST WE NEED TO...CONVINCE ANNEX TO JOIN US!"
MERCY HOSPITAL, A SHORT TIME LATER...
...AND THIS FORM IN TRIPLICATE, SIGN HERE, AND ATTACH IT TO PART B OF THE PRECEDING PAGE...
PREP THE OPERATING ROOM! C'MON, PEOPLE, LET'S MOVE!
WHERE'S HEALTH CARE REFORM WHEN YOU NEED IT?
NOW REBECCA IS IN THE BEST HANDS, THERE'S NOT MUCH MORE I CAN DO HERE.
...EXCEPT WAIT AROUND AND TRY TO EXPLAIN ALL THIS TO THE POLICE, THAT'S A FORMALITY I'D BETTER SKIP.
I'VE GOT TO KEEP A LOW PROFILE UNTIL I LEARN MORE ABOUT THE EXOSKELETON I'M WEARING. AND MY ENCOUNTER WITH SPIDER-MAN* SHOWED ME I'VE GOT A LOT TO LEARN!
BESIDES, WHAT WOULD I TELL THE COPS? I'M NOT EVEN SURE WHAT WENT DOWN... WHO OR WHAT SKULL-FACE WAS...
...AND WHETHER HE HURT REBECCA, OR WAS TRYING TO HELP HER.
* IN AMAZING SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL #27. --Richard
AND IF HE DIDN'T TRY TO KILL HER, WHO DID?
WHOOM
WHAT THE--?! A GAS BOMB?! GOT TO--
SCHEMA MODE--Ilitrak
SURE YOU DON'T WANT HIM FOR A TROPHY, BOSS?
OH, NO! I'VE GOT BIGGER PLANS FOR HIM...

"...ONCE HE REGAINS CONSCIOUSNESS!"
"UUUNNNNNNYIKES!
THOSE...THOSE HEADS ARE REAL!! WHERE AM I? WHAT KIND OF SICK PLACE IS THIS?
SO OUR NEW TOY IS AWAKE, EH?
PLEASE, DON'T GET UP. BESIDES YOU'LL FIND THOSE RESTRAINTS KEEP YOU--AND YOUR POWERS--FIRMLY UNDER OUR CONTROL
YOU WERE THE ONES WHO TRIED TO KILL REBECCA! IF ANYTHING'S HAPPENED TO HER--!
I CERTAINLY HOPE NOT--NOW THAT SHE'S THE BAIT FOR EVEN BIGGER GAME...
...THAT MAGNIFICENT CREATURE YOU MET EARLIER... THE ONE YOUR POWERS ARE GOING TO HELP US TAKE DOWN...
...GHOST RIDER!
GLAD TO HEAR IT.
WHO--?!
OH, BOY.
BUCHANAN'S THE NAME, AND JUST SO WE'RE CLEAR ON WHERE WE STAND...
...I HATE COP KILLERS.
BUT I HATE THE SUPER-NATURAL EVEN MORE. SO WE'RE GONNA MAKE A DEAL, EH?
I'M GONNA KILL YOU...YET... AND YOU'RE GONNA COMBINE THIS ANTI-OCCULT GUN WITH ANNEX'S TECHNOLOGY--
--AND HUNT DOWN "GHOST RIDER" FOR ME!
TO BE CONTINUED...


MARC SPECTOR:
MOON KNIGHT
HUNG JURY
PART 2 of 3
MY QUIET DAY IN A COURT TURNED NASTY AS THE MEMBERS OF A GANG CALLED THE PRETORIANS TRIED TO INFLUENCE THE JUDGE AND JURY.
WORD ON THE STREET SAID THEY HAD SUCCEEDED, BUT I NEED EVIDENCE.
AND A BAR BRAWL MIGHT JUST WORK.

THEY MAKE ME BREAK THE FIRST RULE OF BRAWLING..
THEY GET ME MAD.
EXIT
UNNH!
"WAIT IN THE COPTER," I MIGHT AS WELL BE A CAB DRIVER.
HOLD ON. WHAT'S THIS?
SOMEBODY DECIDED TO MAKE AN EARLY NIGHT OF IT.
GOING TO CALL HOME TO MOTHER AND SEE IF SHE NEEDS ANYTHING FROM THE DELI?
PHONE
PHONE
DIT DOOT DOOT DIDDA DOOT.
I SHOULD RECORD THE BEEPS SO WE CAN TRACE HIS CALL.
YEAH?
S'DELBERT. MOON KNIGHT'S HERE AT DANNY'S TAP-- BUSTIN' THE PLACE OUT.
PHONE
HE KNOWS 'BOUT THE FIX... THE FIX ON THE TRIAL, MAN.

THANKS, DELBERT. WE RE GONNA HAVE TO SEND SOMEBODY TO BROOKLYN TO MAKE SURE THEY DIDN'T CALL MOONKNIGHT.
WHOA.
JUST TELL ME HOW THE FIX WORKS AND I'LL LEAVE.
DON'T KNOW. HOW'D YOU FIND OUT ABOUT IT?
I HAVE SOMEONE IN YOUR LITTLE CLUB.
THAT'LL KEEP THEM GUESSING AND KEEPS MY PROMISE TO CRAWLEY.
IF I FIND OUT YOU KNEW MORE THAN YOU'RE PRETENDING, I'LL BE BACK AND THEN THERE'LL BE TROUBLE
I'VE GOT ZIP TO SHOW FOR THAT LITTLE BAWL.
I'LL HAVE TO WORK ANOTHER OPTION.
HEY!
LET ME STRAP IN FIRST, MAR!
NO TIME FOR THAT. WE HAVE TO GET OVER TO STATEN ISLAND, LIKE IMMEDIATELY.
MIND FILLING ME IN ON THIS?

WHILE YOU WERE PLAYING HARDBALL ONE OF THOSE LOSERS MADE A PHONE CALL. DO YOU THINK THE FIX IS ON THE JURY?
HAS TO BE. YOU SAW THAT JUDGE. NOBODY'S GETTING TO HIM
WHAT'S GOING ON? WHY ARE WE HEADING TO STATEN ISLAND?
TWO OF THE JURORS LIVE THERE.
WE'VE ONLY GOT TIME TO PICK ONE. I MIGHT BE ABLE TO MAKE AN EDUCATED GUESS
BRIIING
DON'T ANSWER IT!
DEAR LORD, IT MIGHT BE THEM
MR. ANGSTROM? I'M CALLING FROM THE TELEPHONE COMPANY. HAVE YOU BEEN EXPERIENCING TROUBLE WITH YOUR LINES?
UH... WELL...
ANY PROBLEMS AT ALL, MR ANGSTROM?
NO! NOTHING WE'RE FINE HERE. NO PROBLEMS
BINGO.
106 BARTON AVENUE, GRANT CITY. THAT GUY SOUNDED SCARED.
GOOD WORK, MAR WE'RE OVER FRESH KILLS. ETA IN FIVE MINUTES

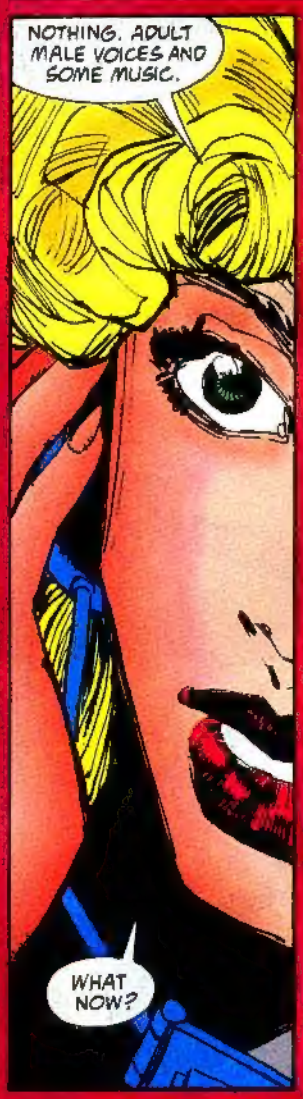
GOOD DETECTIVE WORK, BABE.
YOU'D SAVE A LOT OF BUSTED KNUCKLES IF YOU'D LEAD WITH YOUR HEAD MORE OFTEN.
WHERE WOULD I BE WITHOUT YOU?
YOU'D BE DEAD A DOZEN TIMES OVER, CHAMP.
MAR! DROP DOWN. ISN'T THAT THE BUILDING WE'RE LOOKING FOR?
MARLENE'S RIGHT. MOST OF THIS JOB IS BORING INVESTIGATION AND SEARCHES.
TO DO THIS RIGHT I'VE GOT TO PUT MORE TIME INTO THAT.
SOME OTHER NIGHT.

THIS IS THE PART OF THE JOB THAT GIVES ME THE MOST SATISFACTION.
TAKING DOWN ANIMALS WHO THOUGHT THEY'D HAVE A GOOD TIME WITH SOME EASY MARK.
MY ONLY PROBLEM IS THAT I END UP SCARING THE MARK MORE THAN THE HOODS.
NUH-NOT ANOTHER STEP CLOSER...I-I-I'LL SHOOT!
I'M NOT HERE TO HURT YOU. I WANT TO PROTECT YOU.
WHU-WHY? THEY ALREADY HAVE SCOTTY. I PROMISED I'D DO AS THEY ASKED.
SCOTTY?
MY...MY BOY...
OUR SON, THAT MONSTER WITH THE MASK TOOK OUR SON. HE TOLD HOWARD TO MAKE SURE THE JURY DIDN'T CONVICT HIS FRIENDS.

HOWARD, I WANT YOU TO GO TO COURT TOMORROW AND STALL THE JURY. I'LL BRING YOUR SON BACK TO YOU, I PROMISE YOU THAT.
JUST HOLD UP A GUILTY VERDICT AS LONG AS YOU CAN. HANG THE JURY IF YOU HAVE TO. I'LL FIND A WAY OF LETTING YOU KNOW THAT SCOTTY IS SAFE.
WHAT DID THE GUY IN THE MASK LOOK LIKE?
HE WAS TERRIFYING. HE CUT OUR DOOR DOWN WITH A CHAINSAW.
A CHAINSAW?
WE'VE GOT TO FIND OUT WHERE THE PRETORIANS ARE HOLDING UP, MARLENE.
WAY AHEAD OF YOU. I RECORDED THE TONES WHEN THAT PUNK CALLED FROM THE PAY PHONE.
I USED THE REVERSE DIRECTORY AND PINPOINTED THE LOCATION OF THE NUMBER HE CALLED.
IF THEY KILL THAT BOY, I'LL BE TO BLAME. I STIRRED THOSE PSYCHOS UP.
THEY'D KILL HIM ANYWAY. YOU KNOW THAT. THEIR WORD DOESN'T MEAN ANYTHING.
BUT MY WORD HAS TO! WE'VE GOT TO FIND THAT BOY IN TIME!

SHEEPSHEAD BAY.
YOU'RE SURE THIS IS THE PLACE?
BELLE'S
2A

I CHECKED IT THREE TIMES, MARC. THIS IS WHERE THE GUY CALLED TO SEND THOSE GOONS AFTER THE ANGSTROMS.
SWEEP THE BUILDING WITH THE DIRECTIONALS. SEE IF YOU PICK UP ANY SIGN OF SCOTTY.


NOTHING. ADULT MALE VOICES AND SOME MUSIC.
WHAT NOW?

THIS IS THE ONLY LEAD WE HAVE. WE PARK AND WATCH AND LISTEN.
MORE OF THAT MONOTONOUS DETECTIVE WORK YOU'RE SO FOND OF.